

MONTGOMERY COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

Steven Rosen Kenita V. Barrow
Chair Vice Chair

June 18, 2018

Waiver 18-06-010

Pursuant to § 19A-12(b)(1)(B) of the Public Ethics Law, a public employee must not be employed by a business that negotiates or contracts with the County agency with which the public employee is affiliated, unless the Ethics Commission grants a waiver.

Sheilah O'Connor is a part-time Program Specialist II with the Public Health Services (PHS) Division, Women's Health Services Section at the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). She would like to engage in outside employment as a contract "Safe Sitter" trainer with Suburban Hospital (Suburban), an entity that has contracts with DHHS.

In her job with the PHS, Ms. O'Connor coordinates the Montgomery County Fetal & Infant Mortality Review Board, the Community Action Team, and Co-coordinates the Child Fatality Review Team.

DHHS has contracts with Suburban for various services, but none relate to Ms. O'Connor's responsibilities with the County, nor do they fund Ms. O'Connor's contract position with Suburban.

Pursuant to § 19A-8(b)(3) of the Public Ethics Law, the Ethics Commission may grant a waiver of the prohibition of § 19A-12(b) if the Ethics Commission concludes that the proposed employment is not likely to create an actual conflict of interest. Upon a review of the request and the Department's concurrence in and support for the waiver request, the Commission finds that there is no actual conflict of interest. Pursuant to the standard of § 19A-8(b)(3), the Commission grants the waiver of the prohibition of § 19A-12(b).

The waiver is conditioned on Ms. O'Connor not working in her County capacity on matters involving Suburban.

This waiver expires when the outside employment approval with which it is associated expires, unless a continuation request for outside employment is timely filed and subsequently approved by the Ethics Commission.

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In reaching this decision, the Commission has relied upon the facts as presented by Ms. O'Connor.

For the Commission:

Steven Rosen, Chair